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BULLPEN CITY

Mets, Yankees both with strong relievers. 23

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Whiskey, sexism & war

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ISTOCK & GETTY IMAGES

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

SOUTH AFRICAN COURT REJECTS PISTORIUS RIGHT TO APPEAL CONVICTION

GETTY IMAGES

In South Africa's Constitutional Court on Thursday rejected Olympian Oscar Pistorius' right to appeal against his conviction for the murder of girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp. The Supreme Court of Appeal changed the 29-year-old's conviction to murder in December after the state prosecutors appealed the athlete's prior conviction of culpable homicide in the Pretoria High Court. South African authorities had challenged Pistorius' appeal on the grounds that the Supreme Court of Appeal had correctly found Pistorius guilty. The athlete, nicknamed "Blade Runner" because of the prosthetic legs he uses to race, had filed papers to appeal against his conviction at the Constitutional Court, the country's highest court, on Jan. 11. REUTERS

CUBA SENDING AMERICANS TO THE BEACH DURING OBAMA VISIT

2 Americans traveling to Cuba later this month are being moved out of Havana hotels to make room for President Barack Obama's entourage and being sent tantalizingly close to a place U.S. law effectively forbids them from visiting: the beach. Obama will make his historic trip to the Communist-ruled Caribbean island on March 21-22 with hundreds of people in tow, crowning 15 months of warming relations after more than half a century of Cold War animosity. REUTERS

TECH COMPANIES UNITE BEHIND APPLE AHEAD OF ENCRYPTION RULING

3 Google, Facebook, Microsoft and about a dozen other Internet companies will file a joint legal brief Thursday asking a judge to support Apple in its encryption battle with the U.S. government, sources familiar with the companies' plans said. They will outline their rationale for supporting Apple in an amicus brief to the Riverside, California, federal judge who will rule on Apple's appeal of a court order that would force it to create software to unlock an iPhone associated with last December's shootings in San Bernardino. Privacy advocacy groups The American Civil Liberties Union, Access Now and the Wickr Foundation filed briefs in support of Apple before Thursday's deadline set by Judge Sheri Pym. REUTERS

A New Jersey Transit conductor stands next to a train in Penn Station. GETTY IMAGES

NJ Transit's strike contingency plan

Even with extra bus, ferry and light rail service, only about 40,000 people will be able to commute into New York.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

More than a week ahead of a possible strike of thousands of railroad employees, NJ Transit revealed its emergency plan.

NJ Transit Interim Executive Director Dennis Martin announced Thursday morning that in case of a strike March 13 the agency has worked to develop a plan for commuters.

If there is a strike, no rail service will be provided on the Northeast Corridor (including the Princeton Branch/Dinky), North Jersey Coast, Morris & Essex (including Gladstone), Main/Bergen County, Montclair-Boonton, Raritan Valley, Pascack Valley, Atlantic City and Port Jervis lines.

"Make no mistake: Our contingency service cannot replicate the railroad," Martin said.

The contingency plan will include adding capacity to existing New York commuter bus routes in close proximity to rail stations, contracting private carriers to operate bus service from key park-ride locations during weekday peak periods, increasing capacity on three light rail systems and maximizing use of available PATH and ferry service.

Park-and-ride lots will be opened on a first-come, first-serve basis and buses to New York City are expected to leave from MetLife Stadium, Ramsey/Route 17, Metropark, Hamilton and PNC Bank Arts Center. The locations were chosen based on size and parking capacity, access to regional highways and geographical distribution.

40K
AMOUNT OF PEOPLE ABLE TO COMMUTE DURING THE STRIKE

160K
USUAL NUMBER OF COMMUTERS

The park-ride routes will operate only on weekdays from 6 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. peak periods.

NJ Transit will also enhance peak period service on 29 existing New York bus routes close to stations.

When creating the plan, NJ Transit focused on resources for its rail customers — about 105,000 New York-bound customers.

Although the plan includes increasing bus, ferry and light rail service, a maximum of about 40,000 people will be able to commute to and from New York — compared with an average of 160,000 on a typical weekday.

"This will not be a normal commute for anyone," Martin said. "All travelers will share in the pain and inconvenience if there is a rail stoppage."

All existing valid rail tickets and passes with origin or destination of New York will be accepted for travel on all park-ride service, and will be cross-honored on NJ Transit buses and light rail lines, private bus carriers, PATH, NY Waterway and Seastreak.

Commuters are asked to plan ahead on alternatives, regularly check the NJ Transit website and sign up for alerts.

Officials warned commuters that in the case of a strike, there will be extensive delays and backups on buses and also on the roads — and they were reminded to remain patient and friendly to others.

Employers were also advised to make any necessary adjustments for employees who normally rely on NJ Transit to get to and from work.

"Bus and light rails cannot duplicate our rail services. We're communicating this ahead of time because we need our customers and general public to know this and plan accordingly," Martin said.

According to CBS New York, NJ Transit unions have been working without a contract since 2011 and union leaders are in the process of negotiation changes in contracts when it comes to health care and wages.

Both sides are meeting with the National Mediation Board in Washington on Friday. But if a deal is not reached before March 13, unions have authorized a walkout just after midnight. The last NJ Transit strike was in 1983.

See how you're affected

For specific details on the plan, visit njtransit.com/railstoppage.

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The new $3.9 billion World Trade Center transportation hub Oculus pavilion, designed by architect Santiago Calatrava, opens to the public. HANNAH MATTIX

Mixed feelings on Oculus at opening

The state-of-the-art facility partially opened to visitors Thursday afternoon and is expected to fully open later this year.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
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Crowds of people waited anxiously Thursday afternoon to take those first steps into the newly built World Trade Center Transportation Hub Oculus.

A few minutes after 3 p.m., the doors of the state-of-the art facility — designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava — finally opened to the public. The March 3 opening gave about 100,000 riders who use the PATH the ability to enter at the corner of Liberty and Church streets.

From the outside, visitors were able to see Calatrava's vision, according to Reuters, of a dove being released into the air from a child's hand — which symbolized the rebuilding of a terminal that was destroyed during the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Lower Manhattan soon will have an architecturally visionary 21st century rail station, combined with world-class retail shops, that will be a focal point for downtown commerce," said Scott Rechler, Port Authority vice chairman, in a statement. "The board of commissioners salutes those whose years of toil finally brought this project to fruition. They have created an iconic structure for generations of New Yorkers, commuters and visitors."

While standing in the transportation hub's main section — below a glass roof bringing in natural light — visitors filled the hall taking photos and selfies, and documented the opening.

Martin Oppenheim, from Forest Hills, Queens, was stunned by the design and said just looking at it made him smile — especially after remembering the "dark moments" following the attacks more than a decade ago.

"If something beautiful comes out of it, it's wonderful," Oppenheim said. "It's fabulous, I think it's amazing."

> *"I think it's enlightening for downtown New York. I think we should be proud of the building and see the positive side."*
> Hurni

Architect and Manhattan resident Andre Hurni also voiced his love for the design and said it was similar to transit hubs he had seen throughout Europe.

"I think it's enlightening for downtown New York," Hurni said. "I think we should be proud of the building and see the positive side."

Tyler Harris, from Astoria, Queens, said he heard about the opening through Instagram and took the trip to see the opening of the hub.

"It looks cool, its very futuristic," Harris said.

However, some visitors said that although the site looked really nice, they believe the $4 billion price tag — which according to Reuters was twice the estimate unveiled in 2004 for the hub — was just too much.

"As a New Yorker, I feel frustrated that we spent $4 billion on this thing," said Brooklyn resident Jessica Weddle. "I think it looks like a dinosaur from the outside. … The symbolism is not there."

Doug Burke, who lived in Manhattan for decades and now lives in Westchester, added that he found the site to be "interesting" and liked the "zooming effect" of the design but thinks the money could have been used elsewhere.

"For a few hundred million they could have built something beautiful and spent the other money on other human needs," Burke said.

Clement Malgouyres, who was visiting from France, said it was by far the most enormous transit hub he had seen, and although it fits well in the area, he also sees the cost as a problem.

"For use of public money, I see it's a little extreme," Malgouyres said. "How is it an homage to the victims? It looks good, but many other things could have worked good."

In the upcoming weeks, the eastern entrance to the Oculus will open, giving customers access to Church Street and the Fulton Street Transit Center. In the late spring the access from Vesey and Church Streets will open.

> *"As a New Yorker, I feel frustrated that we spent $4 billion on this thing. I think it looks like a dinosaur from the outside. … The symbolism is not there."*
> Weddle

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Slashing averted

Slashing possibly avoided due to Hoyt Street, Brooklyn, subway arrest

NYPD officers arrested a man wielding a box cutter in a Brooklyn subway station, possibly avoiding another subway slashing.

On Wednesday around 7:30 p.m., police responded to a 911 call of a man with a box cutter at the Hoyt Street subway station in downtown Brooklyn, authorities reported.

Witnesses directed officers to the northbound 2 and 3 train platform, where they found a man brandishing a box cutter, waving it threateningly, police stated.

The man complied with officers when told to drop the weapon, and he was placed under arrest.

Norden Cummings, 30, of Queens, was taken into custody and now faces charges including possessing a weapon, menacing, harassment and disorderly conduct, according to police.

JASON NUCKOLLS

De Blasio to march in St. Patrick's parade

The mayor, boycotted marching for the past two years until the LGBT ban was dropped.

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letters@metro.us

St. Patrick's Day Parade spectators GETTY IMAGES

All New Yorkers will come together in two weeks to shine with pride during this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced on Thursday afternoon that on March 17 he will end his boycott on the Fifth Avenue parade as the ban prohibiting members of the LGBT community from marching has been dropped.

"Who are we as New Yorkers, we are a place that believes everyone has the potential for greatness, everyone matters, everyone should be included. This is who we've been for centuries," de Blasio said.

For the past two years, de Blasio has opted out from participating in the parade — the first time in two decades that a mayor has done so — over the rule that did not allow gay groups from being a part of the event.

According to the New York Daily News, last year the ban was dropped partially when a group of gay employees at NBC were allowed to march.

"For the last two decades there's been a blemish on our city because we couldn't be what we're meant to be," de Blasio said. "For the first time in decades the whole Irish community will come together to celebrate."

De Blasio added that along with honoring St. Patrick and celebrating the 100th anniversary of Easter Rising — a landmark in the battle for Irish freedom — March 17 will also honor Ireland's achievement in the world. According to the mayor, Ireland became the first nation to vote for marriage equality — opening the door for others nations to join in the change.

During his announcement, the mayor also said that with dropping the ban New York City is showing that although there are messages of "exclusion and separation," it does not represent what most Americans — and New Yorkers — feel.

"That's why today is even more important because it's not just what it means to us. It's New York once again sending the message that New York values are American values," de Blasio said. "We get to experience our proud New York values on March 17 together."

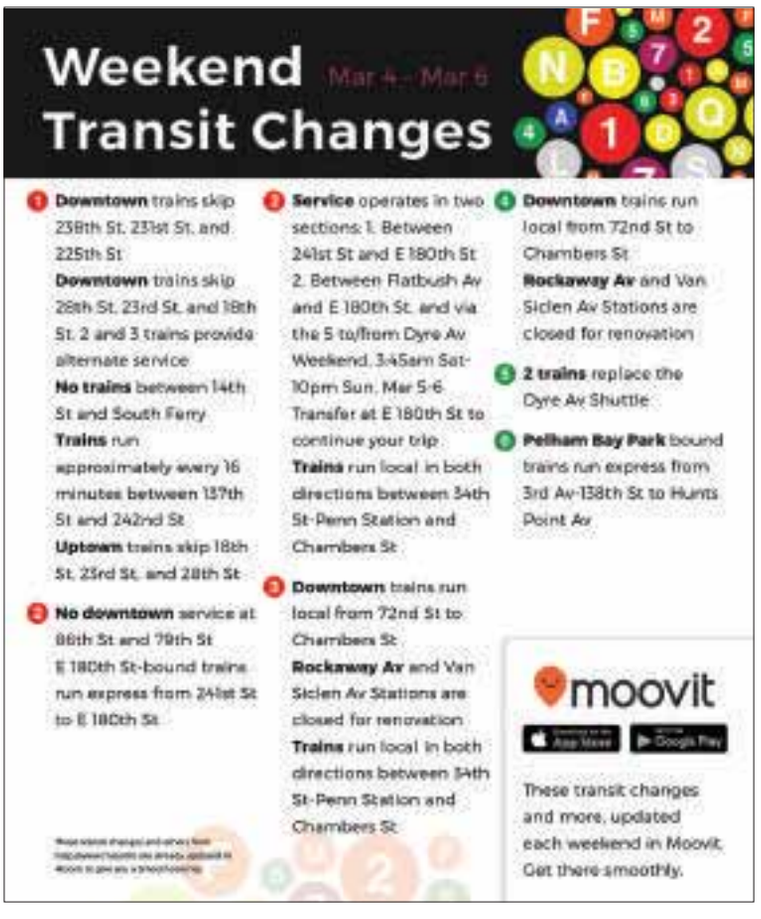
Members of the Lavender and Green Alliance, an Irish LGBT group which through the years has fought against the ban, will be one of many marchers during the parade.

"Your words of welcome have transformed a bitter and painful divide in our community and city," Brendan Faye, co-founder of the group, said while choking back tears. "We look so forward to marching proudly up Fifth Avenue with our banner.

The City Council — who also boycotted marching in the parade the previous years — will now also participate on March 17.

Councilman Daniel Dromm — who is an openly gay member of the City Council — could not hold back his tears during the Thursday announcement and remembered the struggles faced to get to this point.

"There were many times we wanted to give up and wondered if we'd ever see this day," Dromm said. "Today is a day of reconciliation and healing for us."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No trains between 14th St and South Ferry
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Uptown trains skip 18th St, 23rd St, and 28th St
2 No downtown service at 86th St and 79th St
E 180th St-bound trains run express from 241st St to E 180th St
3 Service operates in two sections: 1. Between 241st St and E 180th St 2. Between Flatbush Av and E 180th St, and via the 5 to/from Dyre Av
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3 Downtown trains run local from 72nd St to Chambers St
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Trains run local in both directions between 34th St-Penn Station and Chambers St
4 Downtown trains run local from 72nd St to Chambers St
Rockaway Av and Van Siclen Av Stations are closed for renovation
5 2 trains replace the Dyre Av Shuttle
6 Pelham Bay Park bound trains run express from 3rd Av-138th St to Hunts Point Av
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Brooklyn oxy ring busted

An alleged conspiracy involving five people, one of whom remains at large, has led to multiple charges stemming from the illegal distribution of oxycodone.

Gilberto Cabrera and Robert Hespeth are the alleged leaders of a distribution ring that would supply accomplices with oxycodone-positive urine that conspirators would use to convince doctors in Brooklyn they were taking the medication when, in fact, the pills were being sold to others, U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said. The Ekwunife Pharmacy in Brooklyn was named as the place where the ill-gotten prescriptions were filled by pharmacist Kian Gohari.

Sheri Bowen faces charges as an accomplice who would visit doctors to receive the prescriptions, officials said.

The Ekwunife Pharmacy GOOGLE MAPS

Calvin Barrett Jr., an alleged buyer of large quantities of oxycodone from Cabrera, remained at large.

Charges against the group included conspiracy to distribute and possess a controlled substance, which could carry a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, the attorney's office stated.

"By allegedly engaging in a conspiracy to distribute oxycodone within our community, the defendants engaged in behavior that ultimately contributes to this epidemic — one that has a lasting impact on all segments of society," FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge Diego Rodriguez said of the charges. JASON NUCKOLLS

BRIEF

Man stabbed in head with screwdriver near Lincoln Center

An argument between two men ended with one being stabbed in the head with a screwdriver near Lincoln Center.

Their dispute came to a violent end around 5:40 a.m. on Thursday, CBS reported, adding that the stabbing victim was in stable condition.

The victim, 28, was in an underground parking facility below Lincoln Center when the assault occurred after a domestic dispute, the New York Daily News reported in a related article.

The suspect, 29, was taken into custody by police, and charges are pending, the Daily News added. The screwdriver was recovered. JASON NUCKOLLS

The screwdriver NYPD

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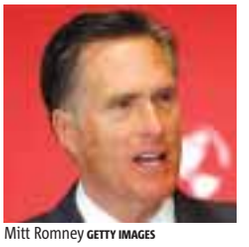
'Donald Trump is a fraud': Romney

Romney warned that polls show Trump would likely lose to possible Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.



Mitt Romney GETTY IMAGES

Former U.S. presidential candidate Mitt Romney gave a blistering rebuke of 2016 Republican frontrunner Donald Trump on Thursday, leading an attempt by the party establishment to halt the rise of the outspoken New York billionaire.

Romney, a Republican elder statesman and the nominee four years ago, urged Republicans in states that have not yet held nominating contests to back Trump's opponents to stop his march to the nomination for the Nov. 8 election to succeed President Barack Obama.

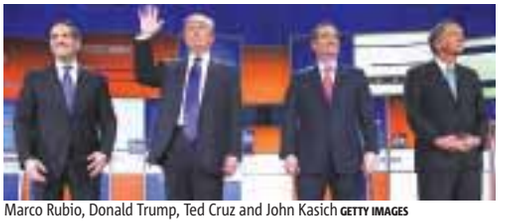
"Here's what I know. Donald Trump is a phony, a fraud," said Romney, 68, in a hard-hitting speech.

"He's playing the members of the American public for suckers. He gets a free ride to the White House and all we get is a lousy hat," he said.

Trump has made his party's mainstream uneasy with his positions on trade and immigration, including his calls to build a wall between the United States and Mexico, deport 11 million illegal immigrants and temporarily bar Muslims from entering the country.

REUTERS

Claws out at 19th GOP debate



Marco Rubio, Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and John Kasich GETTY IMAGES

The GOP presidential debate Thursday night kicked off with early fireworks as Donald Trump and Marco Rubio quickly began bickering with each other.

The two were at each other's throats within minutes, as Trump and Rubio shouted over each other over whether Trump could beat Hillary Clinton in a general election.

Trump at one point referred to his penis size while countering against attacks from Rubio.

"He hinted my hands are small, something else must be small. I guarantee you there's no problem," Trump said.

Rubio was asked why he changed his campaign's tone to begin making personal attacks against Trump in the last week.

"If there's anyone who's ever deserved to be attacked that way, it's Donald Trump," Rubio said.

"This little guy has lied so much about my record," Trump countered.

"Have you ever heard of Trump Steaks?" Rubio asked, grinning. "He's not going to make America great."

But Fox News anchor Chris Wallace threw some of Trump's arguments back in his face. He argued that slashing the Department of Education's budget of $78 billion and the Environmental Protection Agency's $8 billion wouldn't make up the country's $544 billion deficit, while Medicare only spends $78 billion on medicine, Trump said he could save while $300 billion by renegotiating Medicare medicine deals.

"I'm not talking just about drugs, I'm talking about other things. We'll save $300 billion a year if we properly negotiate," Trump responded.

Ted Cruz argued that his campaign offers more to voters.

"I understand the folks who support Donald. You're angry, you're angry with Washington," Cruz said, adding that "Donald has been part of the corruption" for 40 years.

"They're interested in solutions, not slogans. ... The question is, do you understand the principles that made America great in the first place?" Cruz asked.

Trump also used the debate to counter two of the biggest stories about him in recent days. He disavowed the Ku Klux Klan and David Duke from the stage, and lashed back against former GOP candidate Mitt Romney, who criticized Trump Thursday: "He was a failed candidate, he should have beat President Obama very easy. He failed miserably and it was an embarrassment to everybody."

The debate also marked the apparently friendly reunion of Megyn Kelly and Donald Trump.

"Mr. Trump, hi, hello," Kelly said in her first questions to him.

"Nice to be with you Megyn, looking well," Trump responded.

"As are you," she said.

SAM NEWHOUSE

BUILDING THE ELECTORAL CATAPULT

THE FOREMAN OPINION

TOM FOREMAN

I've always been struck by a simple reality in politics: If any candidate can tap into that very deep well of people who don't normally vote, convincing them to show up at the polls, that candidate will blow the projection models to pieces. Faced with a campaign that breaks the political mold, polls can become extremely unreliable.

Barack Obama did it in 2008. Even as he described himself as the unlikeliest of candidates, he was drawing oceans of new voters — a giant, electoral catapult that launched him from relative obscurity into the White House, even though only a year earlier many political analysts would have given him zero chance of winning the Democratic nomination, let alone the general election.

I wasn't sure I'd ever see such a thing again. That is, until this primary season. And my, oh my. How the worm has turned. In case you haven't noticed, Republicans are showing up all over the place in record-breaking numbers, while Democrats are lagging far behind. More than nine million voters have made their mark for GOP candidates already, while only six million and change have weighed in for the current president's party.

If you are a Democrat, this ought to be keeping you up at night.

What's driving the big numbers? Many of the after-action reports from the primaries and caucuses sum it up in a word: Trump. The billionaire from New York is smashing down all the walls of political predictability, collecting support from a surprisingly wide base of voters. Sure, he's managed to alienate a good many too, what with his inflammatory statements about religious, ethnic and immigrant groups. But he has also ginned up a staggering amount of enthusiasm. In our polls, the GOP are tremendously excited about this election; eager to get to November, eager to cast their ballots, eager to take back that nice place on Pennsylvania Avenue. While Democrats? It's much harder to find that kind of fire on their side right now.

The election is still a ways off. Things can change. But if Dems don't start getting excited about their candidate, the rumble we're hearing right now could turn out to be the wooden wheels of another enormous contraption ready to launch a once long-shot candidate — this time a Republican — right into the Oval Office.

'Tampon tax' targeted in class-action suit

GETTY IMAGES

New York state's "tampon tax" reflects a double standard that applies the sales tax to menstrual products used by women while exempting items typically used by men, such as Rogaine and condoms, according to a class-action lawsuit filed on Thursday.

"It's a tax on women for being women. And that's wrong," said Ilann Maazel, a lawyer representing the five women who filed the class action in state Supreme Court in Manhattan.

New York is one of 40 states that levy a sales tax on feminine sanitary products, and Maazel said he hoped suing the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance would trigger a national rollback of what he said are illegal taxes.

The five women who filed the lawsuit include an actor, photographer, law school professor, church program coordinator and data scientist.

The lawsuit seeks to end the tax and to refund money to the estimated five million women who purchase menstrual products in the state.

The 4 percent state sales tax applied to tampons, sanitary napkins and other products used by women during their monthly menstrual cycle amounts to $14 million a year in New York, Maazel said.

Menstrual products should be included on the list of items exempt from the sales tax because they are deemed necessary to human health. That exemption is already granted to Rogaine, condoms, foot powder, dandruff shampoo, acne soap, incontinence pads and other items, the lawsuit said.

"These are not luxury items, but a necessity for women's health," the lawsuit said.

Women spend an average of $70 each year on tampons and pads, according to the lawsuit.

"Without access to tampons and sanitary pads, women are forced to use unsanitary and dirty rags — which can lead to infections and an increased risk of diseases such as cervical cancer — or have nothing at all to staunch the blood — which poses a risk to the health of women and the public," the suit said.

REUTERS

BRIEF

Yahoo exploring sale of $1 billion to $3 billion in 'non-core assets': CFO

Yahoo Inc. is exploring the sale of $1 billion to $3 billion of patents, property and other "non-core assets," its chief financial officer said Thursday.

Yahoo CFO Ken Goldman told the Morgan Stanley Technology, Media and Telecom Conference that a committee created to explore alternatives to the company's plan to spin off its core business is looking at quick sales of assets.

Goldman said patents, land, property and "non-core units or businesses" are all on the table for potential sale, and the company has sold or licensed more than $600 million in patents over the last three years.

Yahoo faces increasing pressure from shareholders and investors to sell its core business instead of going through a spinoff that would separate the company from its multibillion-dollar stakes in Yahoo Japan and Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.

Yahoo GETTY IMAGES

In recent weeks, media reports have surfaced that Time Inc., Verizon Communications Inc. and several other suitors have emerged as potential buyers.

Goldman did not confirm the reports but said the committee is "aligned to see what best creates shareholder value." REUTERS

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Google engineers are trying to help map the Zika virus. GETTY IMAGES

Google working with UNICEF to map Zika

Google engineers are working with U.N. child agency UNICEF to analyze data in an effort to map and anticipate the spread of the Zika virus, linked to birth defects among children in Brazil, the company said on Thursday.

Google, a unit of Alphabet Inc., said in a statement it was providing a $1 million grant to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund to help it raise awareness about Zika, reduce mosquito populations and support other Zika-related initiatives on the ground, mostly in Latin America.

The U.S. company said that it was also updating its products to make information on Zika more available.

Scientists suspect Zika may cause microcephaly in babies, a condition defined by unusually small heads that can result in developmental problems. Brazil said it has confirmed more than 640 cases of microcephaly, and considers most of them to be related to Zika infections in the mothers. Brazil is investigating more than 4,200 additional suspected cases of microcephaly.

Zika, transmitted by mosquitoes, was first detected in Brazil last year and is spreading rapidly in the Americas, according to the World Health Organization, which last month declared the outbreak a global health emergency.

Much is unknown about the disease, including whether it actually causes microcephaly. One of the difficulties in tracking the outbreak is that no reliable test for the virus exists, and in many cases victims present no symptoms.

Google said it had seen a 3,000 percent increase in global search interest since November.

Google said it had added extensive information about Zika globally in 16 languages, with an overview of the virus, symptom information, and health alerts from governments and international organizations.

Google said a volunteer team of its engineers, designers and data scientists was helping UNICEF build a platform to process data from different sources, including weather and travel patterns, in order to visualize potential outbreaks. REUTERS

Live on Broadway

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This season on Broadway, you're invited to whip out those disco boots and bell bottoms for the arrival of ***DISASTER!***, which opens this Tuesday at the Nederlander Theatre. That's right, the 70's are alive and kicking at this brand-new musical comedy guaranteed to deliver earthquakes, tidal waves, infernos and all of your favorite songs of the wildest decade ever.

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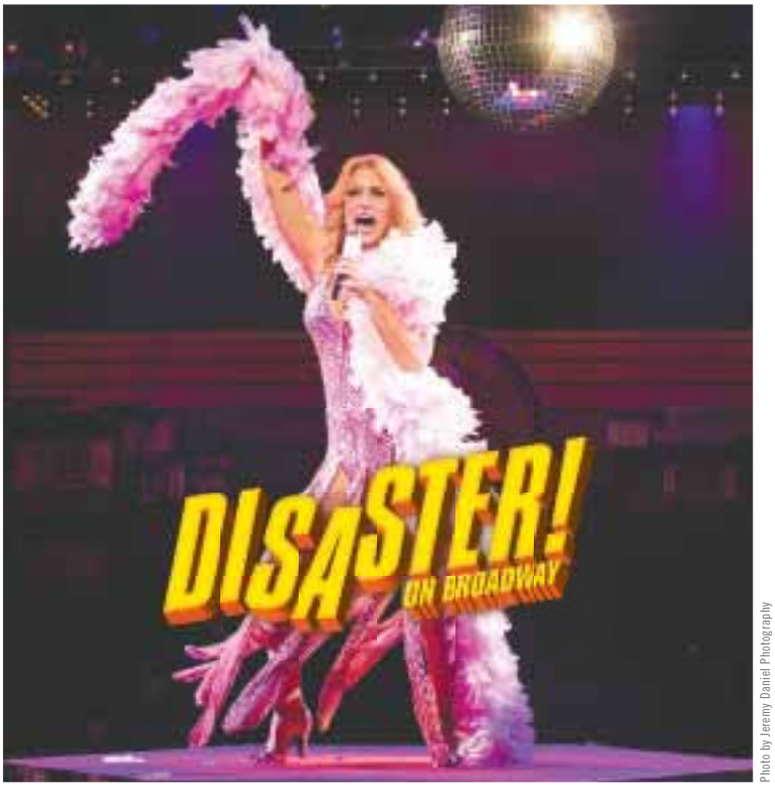
Speaking of "Hot Stuff," who better to bring this musical of epic proportions to the stage than an outrageous cast featuring some of Broadway's favorite stars? There's Tony Award® winner ***Roger Bart***, who you might recognize from *The Producers* and *Young Frankenstein*; ***Kerry Butler***, the Tony®-nominated actress who starred in the original casts of *Xanadu*, *Rock of Ages* and *Hairspray*; three-time Tony® nominee ***Kevin Chamberlin*** of *The Addams Family*; ***Adam Pascal*** from both *Rent*'s original Broadway cast and major motion picture; as well as Tony Award® winner ***Faith Prince***, ***Rachel York***, ***Jennifer Simard***, ***Seth Rudetsky*** and many, many more.

"★★★★★ KNOCKOUT FUN!"
–Adam Feldman, *Time Out New York*

DISASTER! first tore up the scene at St. Luke's Theatre, with *The New York Times* calling it "Irresistible!" and Tina Fey and Amy Poehler adding it to their *Entertainment Weekly* MUST LIST. Now's your turn to make a run for the Nederlander Theatre where Broadway's favorite new musical comedy strikes eight times a week!



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Production photo by Joan Marcus; Photo of Tshidi Manye as Rafiki by Guzman. ©Disney

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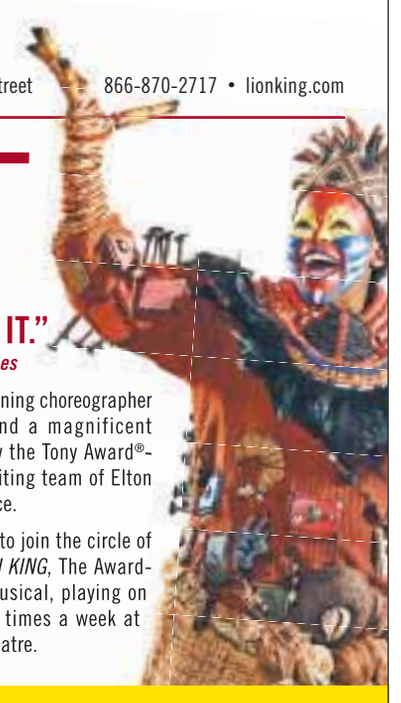

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Photos of James Monroe Iglehart, Courtney Reed, Adam Jacobs, Nikki Long and the Original Broadway Company by Deen van Meer, Cylla von Tiedemann and Matthew Murphy. ©Disney

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Previews begin March 31st at the Broadhurst Theatre (235 W 44th St.). For tickets and more information visit TuckEverlastingMusical.com

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–CHARLES ISHERWOOD, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

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–DAVID COTE, TIME OUT NEW YORK
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"ELECTRIFYING. BARTLETT SHER DIRECTS A SUPERB NEW PRODUCTION OF A MUCH-LOVED MUSICAL THAT STRIKES HOME WITH UNUSUAL FORCE." –Charles Isherwood, The New York Times

"★★★★★ A MAGNIFICENT, LIFE-AFFIRMING PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY BARTLETT SHER. DANNY BURSTEIN IS NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE." –David Cote, Time Out New York

All of New York is raising a glass to Broadway's newest hit, *Fiddler on the Roof*. Tony®-winning director Bartlett Sher and the team behind *South Pacific* and *The King and I* bring a fresh and authentic vision to this beloved theatrical masterpiece from Tony winner Joseph Stein and Pulitzer Prize winners Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick.

Starring Tony nominees Danny Burstein and Jessica Hecht, *Fiddler on the Roof* is the heartwarming story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter. This classic musical is rich with Broadway hits, including "To Life (L'Chaim!)," "If I Were A Rich Man," "Sunrise Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker," and "Tradition," and features stunning movement and dance from acclaimed Israeli choreographer Hofesh Shechter based on the original staging by Jerome Robbins. This acclaimed Fiddler will introduce a new generation to the iconic musical adored across the globe.

Fiddler on the Roof

Photo Credit: Joan Marcus

Photo Credit: Henry Leutwyler

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In "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot," war correspondents played by Margot Robbie and Tina Fey try to cut loose in Afghanistan. PARAMOUNT PICTURES

THE FUN STARTS HERE

Tina Fey and Margot Robbie go to war

The stars of "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" learn what women face as war correspondents.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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Tina Fey remembers when she first heard about Kim Barker's "The Taliban Shuffle," the nonfiction book that became the film "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot." It was in the The New York Times book reviews.

"It said, 'This is like a Tina Fey character.' And because I'm an egomaniac and a moron, that really spoke to me," Fey says.

In the film, the "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" star plays a slightly fictionalized version of Barker, who was a war correspondent in Afghanistan and Pakistan from 2003 to 2006. It's not a full-on drama, but it's not a full-on comedy either. It's not even, Fey maintains, a satire a la "MASH."

"There are so many great war comedies," says Fey. This one, she argues, is different. "This movie, at its core, is a human story. It's not about relationships. It's not political. It's not 'Dr. Strangelove.' It's about a woman who's made the choice to blow up her existing life and go on this adventure."

Covering the day-to-day of the job over three years, "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" still points out a lot of absurdities of war, including what it's like to be a Western woman trying to work in this part of the world. "You're just doing your job and someone will full-tilt grab your ass," Fey explains.

Of course, Fey is only going off what she read in Barker's book. She and the crew never had to experience Afghanistan firsthand, given that they shot in New Mexico. In a sense that's a shame: Co-star Margot Robbie — who plays a fellow correspondent at another news agency — is an avid world traveler, who won't let her sudden fame post-"Wolf of Wall Street" keep her from staying in hostels, not hotels.

"I really like investing myself in a different culture," Robbie says. "I feel you get to do that more when you stay in hostels. When you're in a hotel, you can be anywhere in the world. They all look the same, to an extent."

Both Fey and Robbie said making the film made them appreciate how being born in the U.S. and Australia, respectively, has kept them from more severe forms of sexism. Robbie says she doesn't feel like she's been reduced to her looks.

"I've been very fortunate. I haven't been exploited, I don't feel," she explains. "I'm more concerned with being labeled as a sex symbol. That makes me feel more uncomfortable than any day-to-day interactions I have."

"Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" is still a hard sell to audiences these days, particularly in our superhero multiplex landscape. "Maybe we should say that the vehicles transform into robots, and then they fight each other," jokes Fey. "You're going to be halfway through before you realize that doesn't actually happen."

GETTY IMAGES

GETTY IMAGES

"London has Fallen"

Director: Babak Najafi
Stars: Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart
Rating: R
● ● ● ● ●

Gerard Butler shoots people in "London Has Fallen." DAVID APPLEBY, GRAMERCY PICTURES

"That all they got?" quips one of the good guys toward the end of "London Has Fallen." This, after terrorists have blown up the city's every major landmark, assassinated Europe's leaders and taken out untold innocent civilians. Making its predecessor "Olympus Has Fallen" look like "Eddie the Eagle," this aggro sequel is a right-wing '80s fantasy on the order of "Rambo III" and "Death Wish 3," though not as charming as either, in which only a lone, politically incorrect badass with perfect aim and unlimited ammo can save us from carnage that seems like a Breitbart wet dream.

Once again, Gerard Butler's Secret Service god Mike Banning is tasked with saving the president (Aaron Eckhart) in another city from another thoroughly incoherent plot. This one's hatched by dumb movies' favorite villains: scary Middle Easterners, and their scheme resembles no less than the November Paris attacks. So that's fun.

Watching a film like "London Has Fallen" — or a Michael Bay film — is like briefly entering an alien headspace, where up is down, right is wrong and liberals like Morgan Freeman and Angela Bassett are tasked with spouting rightie lines about killing 'em all and letting God sort 'em out. There's no way to defend a movie like this, in which our hero implores a Middle Eastern character to "Go back to F—headistan!" whose politics are Trump-level incoherent and in which drones kill innocent people but are still totes awesome. The only proper response is to have a good laugh at its expense, even if you'll need a cold shower after. **MATT PRIGGE**

Cate Blanchett is one of Christian Bale's many ladyfriends in Terrence Malick's "Knight of Cups." BROAD GREEN PICTURES

"Knight of Cups"

Director: Terrence Malick
Stars: Christian Bale, Natalie Portman
Rating: R
● ● ● ● ●

With "Knight of Cups," Terrence Malick has made a two-hour montage coated in nonstop classical music and flowery narration delivered in hushed tones. In other words, it's a Terrence Malick movie. These used to be rare: The director spent 20 years lying low between 1978's "Days of Heaven" and 1998's "The Thin Red Line." Now they're everywhere; he has at least three more en route. And so we may be oversaturated with Malicks that look and feel the same but still are unlike anyone else's.

"Cups" may be the one that causes fairweather fans to jump ship, in part because it follows a moldy type. Christian Bale is a brooding Hollywood player wrestling with an empty life, douchey friends and scores of girlfriends.

We've seen this guy before — so, so, so many times — but we've never seen him quite like this. Even if his anguishes are old-hat, Malick has a way of making the familiar seem rich and strange, presenting L.A. (and at one point Vegas) as though seen for the first time. There's not a single shot that stays still, each quick cut flowing into each other to create a sensory overload. The least of Malick's seven movies, it's still a rapturous wonder. **MP**

One of the better scenes in "Zootopia" is set at a DMV staffed with painfully slow sloths. DISNEY

"Zootopia"

Director: Byron Howard, Rich Moore
Stars: Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman
Rating: PG
● ● ● ● ●

Disney's 55th toon extravaganza has the brand's usual uplifting messages: Go after your dreams, don't give up, be kind to your fellow ... well, not human, but animal, since it's set in a world of talking critters. We're used to Disney homilies. What we're perhaps not used to is messages that are timely, even necessary. Despite its good cheer and rampant jokes, "Zootopia" is a big, sometimes messy, sometimes insightful exploration of bigotry, using animals to preach for a more evolved understanding of each other's innate differences. And it arrives as a war-crime-endorsing, Mussolini-retweeting demagogue is exploiting nativist fears on the road to the White House. It's a Disney film weirdly if accidentally of the moment.

The plea for decency and sanity isn't subtle, but it doesn't overly dominate "Zootopia," which is light and bouncy, by turns delightful and groan-worthy. Ginnifer Goodwin perkily voices Judy Hopps, who won't let being a tiny bunny keep her from her dream: becoming a cop in the big, bad, multicultural city. Ignored and undermined, she winds up assigned to a case no one wants: An otter goes missing, which turns out to be part of a larger conspiracy involving, of all things, in a fizzy Disney movie, the oppression of entire species.

Melding the fun with the serious is usually more Pixar's bag than Disney's, its corporate overlords. It often seems like "Zootopia" is trying to be more "Toy Story" than "Frozen"; there's even a nudge-nudge cheap shot diss of "Let It Go." It's edgier than most Disneys, but also not as smooth at integrating subtext into the silliness. The commentary can be rough, in ways both reckless and genuinely cutting, with references to affirmative action, right-to-deny-service signs and prejudice, even from our upbeat hero. It still finds room for silly set pieces, plus a solid "Emmett Otter" joke. But as a sometimes darkly honest movie about human-like animals, it's certainly no "BoJack Horseman." **MP**

"Whiskey Tango Foxtrot"

Director: Glenn Ficara, John Requa
Stars: Tina Fey, Margot Robbie
Rating: R
●●●●●

Tina Fey isn't just Liz Lemon in Afghanistan in "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot."
PARAMOUNT PICTURES

"Tina Fey war comedy" sets "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" up to look like something it's not quite. It is a movie where the performer works her self-effacing Liz Lemon routine in a locale just slightly more nerve-wracking than NBC. It is a movie where soldiers casually cite "Predator" as a reason they enlisted. But it's not "30 Rock Goes to Afghanistan," and it's not even a satire. It's a dramedy that teems with sharp (and, yes, often funny) details about life in the epicentre of wartime, more human than joke machine, even if that's eventually to a fault.

Based on "The Taliban Shuffle," Kim Barker's memoir of her stint as a war correspondent in the mid-aughts, it has Fey whimsically heading overseas, despite not being remotely prepared. "Whisky Tango Foxtrot" doesn't have a lot of narrative drive, and even throws in a token love interest. That he's actually a rakish cad (played by Martin Freeman) is a good example of the film's slightly darkened heart. Ditto her bestie: a curt fellow reporter (Margot Robbie), introduced bluntly informing Kim she's "Kabul cute" — pretty all right back home, but a hottie in more extreme climes.

There's a lot of drinking and carousing, though as it wears on the balance tilts more toward the serious. What started off as a film that perhaps too jokily plays the Chipmunks Christmas song ultimately winds up one that earnestly blasts Radiohead and The National. It's a war movie sometimes at war with itself — savvy and hip but also a film that casts Westerners (Alfred Molina, Christopher Abbot) as Afghans. Then again, Alfred Molina and Christopher Abbott are fine actors, and the movie has enough goodness to power it through to the finish line, mostly victorious. **MP**

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MATT PRIGGE
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It began as a fever dream: Alexander Olch wanted to build his own movie theater in New York. It would show films new, old and alternative, most of them on 35 mm film, not digital. It would be more than that, though. It would be a place for filmmakers and moviegoers to meet up. There would be a restaurant, a bookstore, a candy store. And there'd be no traditional concessions.

"It really is an irrational, un-thought-through idea," Olch tells us. "But those are the strongest ideas — the ones you don't have a solid answer for, except to say you keep staying up late at night working on it."

Olch's dream has come true: On Friday, New York gets the Metrograph, a two-screen theater (one big, the other small). It opens in LES with a schedule that hits the ground running, with everything from "Purple Rose of Cairo" to "Babe: Pig in the City," with a series on legendary (and rarely seen) French iconoclast Jean Eustache ("The Mother and the Whore") en route.

The Metrograph joins a New York moviegoing scene that's already rich, though according to artistic and programming director Jake Perlin, they're not in competition with places like Anthology Film Archives, IFC Center, BAMcinematek and more.

"It's not doing something they're not doing so much as doing something that's ours, our sensibility," Perlin says.

"All of us at Metrograph are part of the same generation," says Olch, also a filmmaker who made the 2008 doc "The Windmill Movie." "Jake's programming speaks to a new generation in what he and we consider to be a canon of films that would probably not be considered a great canon 20 years ago." They were raised on the stone cold classics, like "The Third Man" and "The Magnificent Ambersons," and have moved on to find new loves.

Rosanna Arquette and Madonna team up in 1985's "Desperately Seeking Susan," screening — on film! — on Tuesday, March 8. MGM

"Greatness in cinema is not a narrow idea," Olch adds.

Perlin says they don't overthink what they program. "It's not like, 'Let's mix up high and low.' It's just what we like, and do we think other people will like it. We're just following our interests," he says.

Olch doesn't want the Metrograph to be only be about watching movies. He wants it to be a place for filmgoers and filmmakers to gather. And it's in a part of Manhattan he considers the most exciting right now. (Mission Chinese, among other restaurants and shops, is right around the corner.)

"It's a place you would come to even if you're not going to see a movie," Olch says. "It's a place that exists in the community."

Michael Grant, right, and his partner Vinny Dautaj at Antico Noè Midtown. PROVIDED

A tasting tour of Italy

Three new restaurants bring their corners of Italy to NYC.

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Feeling that late-winter wanderlust? Restaurant owners are counting on it, with three openings this week reminding New Yorkers just how much nicer the sunny Italian countryside sounds right about now.

Beloved Florence sandwich shop lands in Midtown

220 E. 53rd St., open daily, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Anticonoe.com

There's always that one magical hole-in-the-wall eatery that everyone comes back from their vacation raving about. In the case of Florence's beloved panini shop Antico Noè, the magic is now being shared with all of NYC. The sandwich emporium has been feeding locals and tourists for over 70 years in an alley off the Piazza San Pier Maggiore. The shop is starting with a selection of the 10 greatest hits from Florence (we recommend the No. 4, stuffed chicken with sauteed mushrooms, mozzarella and the shop's signature rosé sauce), and will gradually expand its menu to all 25 sandwiches ($9.50-$13.50). Owner Michael Grant says 90 percent of the ingredients are imported, for maximum authenticity, and he keeps the bread low-salt, a Florentine tradition since the Middle Ages (because of taxes, like many quirks of history). The small shop has a handful of bar stools and a little counter space to linger.

Eataly highlights Tuscany at pop-up restaurant

200 Fifth Ave., open weekdays, noon-3 p.m.

The month of March is all about Tuscany at Eataly, with products and events showcasing the region all around the market. As the centerpiece, lunchtime restaurant Pranzo has transformed into Ristorante Toscano, boasting a menu of rustic dishes and robust wines to ease us through the gray, rainy transition into spring. Think Zuppa del Frantoio, a hearty soup of kale, potato, fennel and winter squash and tagliatelle with wild boar ragú, as well as breads, beans and farro. Also in the works are special events like the "Super Tuscan" showcase of eight vintages from the house of Marchesi De' Frescobaldi with paired appetizers on March 9 ($80). The restaurant is around only until April 3.

Get to know the Piedmont region in SoHo

90 Thompson St., open for dinner daily, Sancarlonyc.com

Northwestern Italy's Piedmont region is best known for its wines and the zippy little Fiat that all other tiny cars aspire to. But there's also Fassone beef, made from a special breed of cattle whose double-muscled meat is prized for its lean tenderness, white truffles from Alba and a buttery take on fondue called bagna cuada. SoHo's newly opened San Carlo Osteria Piemonte is about showcasing it all in a modern, 50-seat dining room designed by the team behind Momofuku Má Pêche. At the bar, small bites include Caprese-style fried squash blossoms; on the main menu, don't miss the all-in fritto misto with chicken, lamb, frog's legs, sweetbreads and, somehow, more. Pastas will be made in-house and available whole wheat or gluten-free. The wine list offers 10 by the glass, but the bottle list is much more robust at 150, featuring primarily northern Italian vintages. As for the cocktails, try the Milano Torino that is said to have inspired the Negroni.

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Colin Jost knows we're not totally screwed

The "Weekend Update" anchor thinks we're going to be OK.

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Leslie Jones, Colin Jost and Michael Che during "Weekend Update." DANA EDELSON/NBC/NBCU PHOTO BANK VIA GETTY IMAGES

"Saturday Night Live" writer Colin Jost doesn't seem to think the American public is doomed.

"I have faith in the American people to make their own good decisions," says the "Weekend Update" anchor. "And I still think there's going to be at least one more big curveball. I don't know who it's going to help, but I think there will be something in the world or in America that's a big enough effect that it can throw people one way or another."

With fellow anchor/writer Michael Che behind the news desk, Jost's Season 41 has the gift that keeps on giving with the 2016 elections around the corner.

"It's fun during elections years, because people care [about news] so much more. You can do sketches on 'Weekend Update' about very specific aspects and people will know references because they're following [the election]," he explains.

Jost says the decisions for how to keep the jokes told in "Weekend Update" balanced are determined by creator and executive producer Lorne Michaels.

"At the end of the day, Lorne isn't going to want something unless it's funny and fair," says the 33-year-old comedian. "There will be a joke about George W. Bush, and he'll be like, 'Why do we need this? Do we really need to hit him right now? Why is he the focus?' He wants a sense of hitting both sides and fairness and realizing that these politicians, while politicians, are still human."

Are they? "Well most of them," he snickers.

Jost's tenure at "Weekend Update" has been one of ups-and-downs, with him vowing to "get better" and acknowledging his critics during a July interview with the Daily Beast. Later that year, he quietly stepped down as head writer, a position he had held since Season 38, telling Terry Gross during a November episode of "Fresh Air" that the role didn't "really free your brain as a performer."

As a performer, Jost continues to find his groove with Che on "Weekend Update," earning fans of his chemistry with his co-anchor as well as an ongoing flirtation with Leslie Jones that puts Stefon and Seth Meyers to shame. Jost is restretching his legs in stand-up.

"If I'm performing at a comedy club, it's a little bit looser because there's not an exact camera rhythm to it," he says, explaining the difference between his delivery on "Weekend Update" versus a live comedy show. "It's different when you have the full stage to use, and you can tell longer jokes or stories, unless you're really killing it, it's hard to take up."

He knows his fans will expect some news-pegged and political comedy in his act, but he says that comes naturally to his style anyway. Jost joined the "Saturday Night Live" team at the green age of 22 and frequently contributed to The New Yorker's Shouts and Murmurs. Prior to that, he was the president of the Harvard Lampoon and spent his summers as a writer and later a night editor at his hometown newspaper, the Staten Island Advance.

"I broke the 'Spotlight' case, that was all me," he jokes.

Jost thinks his news background, and particularly his time at Harvard, have shaped the way he approaches comedy.

"Even when I was working in news, I just always wanted to write comedy versions of the articles I was writing," he says. These days, Jost's printed work currently comes in the form of cocktail napkins called Mocktails, hand-sketched comics (see: rude "jerk chicken") that he sells on his site and at shows.

But back to that election. Jost still has faith — "I think people are going to make good decisions" — but he knows he's got a job to do.

"God bless America," he says. "Let's hope this all shakes out in a fun, yet productive way."

Yankees not the only team in city with an elite bullpen

Notes from Mets and Yankees spring training in Florida.

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Metro has your notables and quotables from Mets and Yankees camps:

Mets

Jerry Blevins and Antonio Bastardo, the Mets' top two lefty relievers in camp, are brimming with confidence over the Mets' bullpen.

"We dominate the game from the beginning and we're going to dominate the game at the end, too," Bastardo told the New York Post. Blevins echoed his teammate's sentiments, saying, "Depth is what I think strikes me the most. We have … [Jeurys] Familia at the back end … [Addison] Reed to lock down the eighth. And then Bastardo has just been a great pitcher his whole career."

"It's pretty nice to think we've got a couple of different options from the left side and we could have a third," Mets skipper Terry Collins told the Post, "depending on how this camp goes."

That opens the door for Sean Gilmartin, the versatile lefty reliever picked up in the Rule 5 draft last offseason, to make the roster as well as Josh Edgin, the Mets' lefty specialist from 2014 who missed all of last season due to Tommy John surgery.

Curtis Granderson has been dealing with pink eye this week, and after initially being sent away from camp to avoid the disease from spreading, Granderson was seen Wednesday taking batting practice on his own.

"Just as a precaution … you've got to take your three days," Collins said. "But he feels good. He'll be ready for Friday."

Erik Goeddel, who has yet to pitch during spring training due to a sore lat muscle, has been cleared by doctors and should begin throwing in a few days, per the Daily News.

Jeurys Familia is the centerpiece of what should be an outstanding Mets bullpen in 2016. GETTY IMAGES

Yankees

Jacob Lindgren, the Yankees' overall seventh-ranked prospect, had a rocky beginning to his MLB career in late 2015. He spent just seven games at the major league level, gave up three home runs in seven innings, then was diagnosed with a bone spur in his throwing elbow that ended his year early. But with the departure of Adam Warren and Justin Wilson, Lindgren sees a chance at redemption by being able to make the Opening Day roster.

"I feel like I'm coming back stronger and ready to compete," Lindgren told The Journal News. "I feel like I know my identity … I know what I have to do to get outs."

Lindgren has been throwing live batting practice during spring training and reports that his pitches, "were working just as they did before the elbow surgery."

The Yankees got into the win column for the first time this year by beating the Tigers, 10-9, at Steinbrenner Field on Wednesday. The Bombers were down 9-8 entering the final frame but Jorge Mateo started a rally by legging out a leadoff triple.

City supremacy

The Islanders (34-20-7) and Rangers (37-20-6) will tangle again on Sunday at Madison Square Garden (5 p.m., MSG). The Rangers also have a key date at Washington on Friday (7 p.m., MSG2). GETTY IMAGES

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Knicks seek answers of any sort

The franchise is yet again lost despite its early success this season.

TONY WILLIAMS
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The NBA is a season of ebbs and flows, and currently it's all flowing downhill for the Knicks.

Whether it's their current standings, the hot seat team president Phil Jackson is sitting on, the uncertainty within the coaching ranks, the fact they're unintentionally tanking — without a first-round pick to cushion the fall — or their star player under fire from all angles, on and off the floor, things can't be much worse for the Knicks.

Carmelo Anthony may have to reconsider that no-trade clause this summer to save not only the future of the franchise, but his own soul and peace of mind.

The star forward said he's aware of the cloud of doom hovering around the team lately. But for him, he noted all he can do is continue to play hard and respect the game.

"We're not losing our confidence. It's a tough go right now … but we have no choice but to keep fighting," Anthony said, adding he knows the elixir is winning, beginning with a tough slate at Boston, Friday night. "Winning. We need to get back to that winning feeling and ease the tension around here. Winning kind of solves a lot."

Winning hasn't been a regular occurrence lately, as they've dropped 15 of their last 18 games. That 22-22 record the Knicks sported six weeks ago — and all that positive energy that came with it — is long gone. Fast-forward to the present day, and they're 25-37, their franchise player is "frustrated," the team owner is "frustrated" and fans are encouraged by said franchise player to seek a refund from the owner.

Anthony hinted that he was urged by the team's brass, including owner James Dolan, to publicly apologize for his back-and-forth with a disgruntled fan during their most recent game.

"There's definitely frustration. Losing builds up, no doubt," Anthony said, adding he thinks he's back in a good place with a few days distance from the incident. "At this point, I feel good. Compared to last year, I felt the air was sucked out of the building. But right now, I feel like we're getting out of that. But losing tests you. It tests you emotionally."

Emotions have been testy lately, and the tension has mounted because the playoffs are also once again unattainable, which means it should also be time for interim head coach Kurt Rambis to empty the bench and see what and what not to salvage for next season.

It's unlikely that Rambis will get that interim label removed, as Jackson will likely seek another triangle lackey to take his place. But Rambis is a valuable asset to Jackson and will most certainly be retained in his customary position as assistant coach.

Knowing this, Rambis should really remove the unofficial minutes cap off of prized rookie Kristaps Porzingis, and get rookie point guard Jerian Grant on the floor more because veteran Jose Calderon is not the answer.

Knicks fans no longer want to see, nor deserve to be subjected to, watching aging vets who likely won't be around next season. Sasha Vujacic was seen running with the first team during Thursday's scrimmage, but maybe it's time for the Knicks to see their future contributors.

And while Rambis declined to discuss his future within the franchise, or whether there'll be a youth movement, he did speak about Jackson's future, noting he doesn't think his boss will look to bail on the team, as many speculate.

"I don't speak for other people, but there's no indication that he's not staying and not committed," said Rambis. "At least that's my feeling."

Robin Lopez and the Knicks can't buy a win lately. GETTY IMAGES

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of Living Quirky LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on January 8, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Christina Salerno c/o Living Quirky LLC, 244 Fifth Ave., Suite 2121, New York, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of C 34 Legacy, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on November 16, 2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC c/o 277 Malcolm X Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11233. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number TBA, for Beer & Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer & Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 727 Franklin Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11238,foron-premisesconsumption. Guayaco Food & Rollas LLC.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1292951, for On Premises License has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer & Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 123 East 110th Street, New York, NY, for on-premises consumption. Nocciola 110 Corp.

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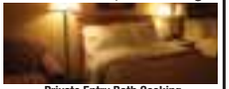
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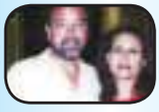

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Who Should Apply?

Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

A percentage of units is set aside for:
- Mobility-disabled applicants (5%)
- Vision- or hearing-disabled applicants (2%)

Preference for a percentage of units goes to:
- Residents of **BROOKLYN CB 1** (50%)
- Municipal employees (5%)

1. View the Available Units... → 2. See Unit Requirements...

Unit Size	Monthly Rent*	Units Available	Household Size**	Annual Household Earning***
1 bedroom	$532	2	1 person	$20,490 - $24,200
			2 people	$20,490 - $27,640
1 bedroom	$847	11	1 person	$31,774 - $36,300
			2 people	$31,774 - $41,460
2 bedroom	$1,025	15	2 people	$38,186 - $41,460
			3 people	$38,186 - $46,620
			4 people	$38,186 - $51,780
3 bedroom	$1,182	2	3 people	$44,275 - $46,620
			4 people	$44,275 - $51,780
			5 people	$44,275 - $55,980
			6 people	$44,275 - $60,120

* Rent includes gas for cooking.

** Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

*** Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to **nyc.gov/housingconnect.** To request an application **by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166**. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **APRIL 29, 2016**. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

Español — Presente una solicitud en línea en nyc.gov/housingconnect. Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166. En el reverso del sobre, escriba en inglés la palabra "SPANISH." Las solicitudes se deben enviar en línea o con sello postal antes de 29 de ABRIL 2016.

简体中文 — 访问 nyc.gov/housingconnect 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请表的简体中文版，请将您的回邮信封寄送至：Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166. 信封背面请用英语注明 "CHINESE"。必须在以下日期之前在线提交申请或邮寄书面申请**2016年4月29日**.

Русский — Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: nyc.gov/housingconnect. Для получения данного объявления и заявления на русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166. На задней стороне конверта напишите слово "RUSSIAN" на английском языке. Заявки должны быть поданы онлайн или отправлены по почте (согласно дате на почтовом штемпеле) не позднее 29 АПРЕЛЯ 2016.

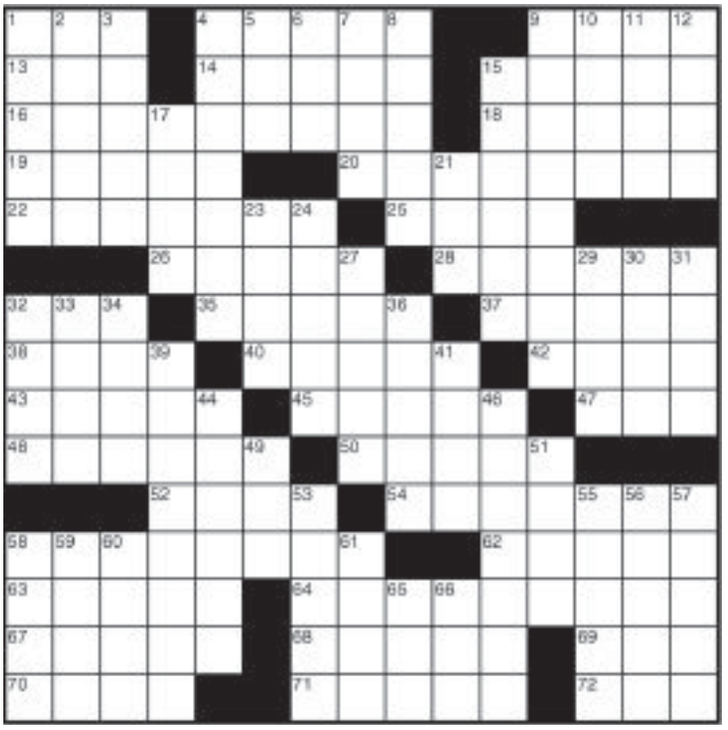
한국어 — nyc.gov/housingconnect 에서 온라인으로 신청하십시오. 이 광고문과 신청서에 대한 한국어 번역본을 받아보시려면 반송용 봉투를 Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166 으로 보내주십시오. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고영어로 적어주십시오. **2016년 4월 29일**까지 온라인 신청서를 제출하거나 소인이 찍힌 신청서를 보내야 합니다.

Kreyòl Ayisyien — Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb nyc.gov/housingconnect. Pou resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166. Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo "HATIAN CREOLE" an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat APRIL 29, 2016.

العربية — تقدم بطلب عن طريق الإنترنت على الموقع nyc.gov/housingconnect. للحصول على ترجمة باللغة العربية لهذا الإعلان ولنموذج الطلب الورقي، أرسل مظروف يحمل اسمك وعنوانك إلى: Yuco Management, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10166. على الجهة الخلفية للمظروف، اكتب بالغة الإنجليزية كلمة "ARABIC". يجب إرسال نماذج الطلبات عن طريق الإنترنت أو ختمها بختم البريد قبل 29 أبريل 2016.

Mayor Bill de Blasio • HPD Commissioner Vicki Been • HDC President Gary D. Rodney

metro.us/crossword



Across

1 Groundhog mo.
4 Hedge
9 Runner's concern
13 Pub pint
14 Dressed to the —
15 Richard of "Stir Crazy"
16 Monitor (2 wds.)
18 Rudders
19 Draw conclusions
20 Tonto's friend (2 wds.)
22 Scoundrels
25 Howard and Wood
26 Handle dough
28 "—, peel me a grape" (Mae West)
32 How come?
35 Hawk's gripper
37 Big Dipper neighbor
38 Cops, to a felon
40 First-magnitude star
42 Cigar end?
43 Knight's gear
45 Grills a steak
47 Mountain curve
48 Become expert in
50 Not hunched
52 Paton or Thicke
54 What Macbeth did
58 Daniel of "My Left Foot" (2 wds.)
62 Caterpillar or grub
63 One more time
64 Without risk
67 Beyond well-done
68 Number of Fates
69 Prizefighter's stat
70 Trolled
71 Hitched, as oxen
72 Half a bray

Down

1 Hindu ascetic
2 Helen, in Spanish
3 Complaints
4 Contest hopeful
5 Caesar's man
6 Wheel buy (2 wds.)
7 Knock flat
8 Glacial ridge
9 Stress
10 Jean Auel heroine
11 Search thoroughly
12 Gaelic
15 Rang up
17 Bushel fraction
21 Disorderly crowd
23 Heavy metal
24 Closeouts
27 Grant recipient
29 After midnight
30 Circus routines
31 Whacks weeds
32 Pow!
33 Juno, in Athens
34 Edible roots
36 Advances
39 Coming to
41 A Maverick brother
44 Give some slack
46 Sold hot tickets
49 Chilly and damp
51 Vail conveyor (hyph.)
53 Really neat
55 Stock, in cookery
56 Draw forth
57 Willem of "Platoon"
58 Pats on
59 Water, in Baja
60 Knitter's supply
61 Carnaby Street locale
65 Mork's planet
66 1865 yielder

metro.us/games

metro.us/sudoku

easy

9			7					6
1							4	7
	2		3			9		8
					7	4		
8	7		2		6		5	3
		9	4					
7		8			3		6	
6	3							4
4					1			5

hard

			3			4		
6				8	4	7		
1			9		7			6
2	3				5	8		9
				3				
5		9	2				7	3
9			6		2			7
		1	4	7				2
		7			3			

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Avoid an emotional scene with a co-worker, client or superior. Offer positive input in order to impress someone who can help you get ahead. Avoid gossip.

Taurus Carefully examine what's presented to you. Don't let your personal relationship with someone alter a necessary decision regarding a financial move.

Gemini Size up every challenge you face and opt to put your intelligence and strength to the test. Don't let anyone muscle into your affairs. Stay in control.

Cancer An interesting offer will change your professional direction. A chance to do more from home or to use your space liberally will be granted.

Leo Too many options will lead to a standstill. Be selective and pick what's best for you. Don't let anyone intervene or persuade you to take a risk.

Virgo Make reforms by sharing your ideas with people who are in a position to bring about change. If you step up, you will be given the responsibility to see matters to completion.

Libra Head to where the action is. If you participate in something, you will encounter people who will change your life. Trying something new or signing up for a self-help program will pay off.

Scorpio You'll be torn between what you want to do and helping someone you love. If you make an unusual request, you will be surprised by the response and the results.

Sagittarius Find out all you can in order to make any necessary changes easier. Don't feel obliged to take part in something you cannot afford or don't want to do.

Capricorn Take the initiative and find out what you need to know. An unexpected opportunity will help you use the information you discover to make a strategic move.

Aquarius Avoid anyone looking for a fight. Refuse to disagree so you can alleviate the problem and gain the time and space to accomplish your objectives. Positive change is within reach.

Pisces People will value your time and offer you assistance if you need it, so don't feel that you have to take on the world all by yourself. Accept help in order to achieve the most. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

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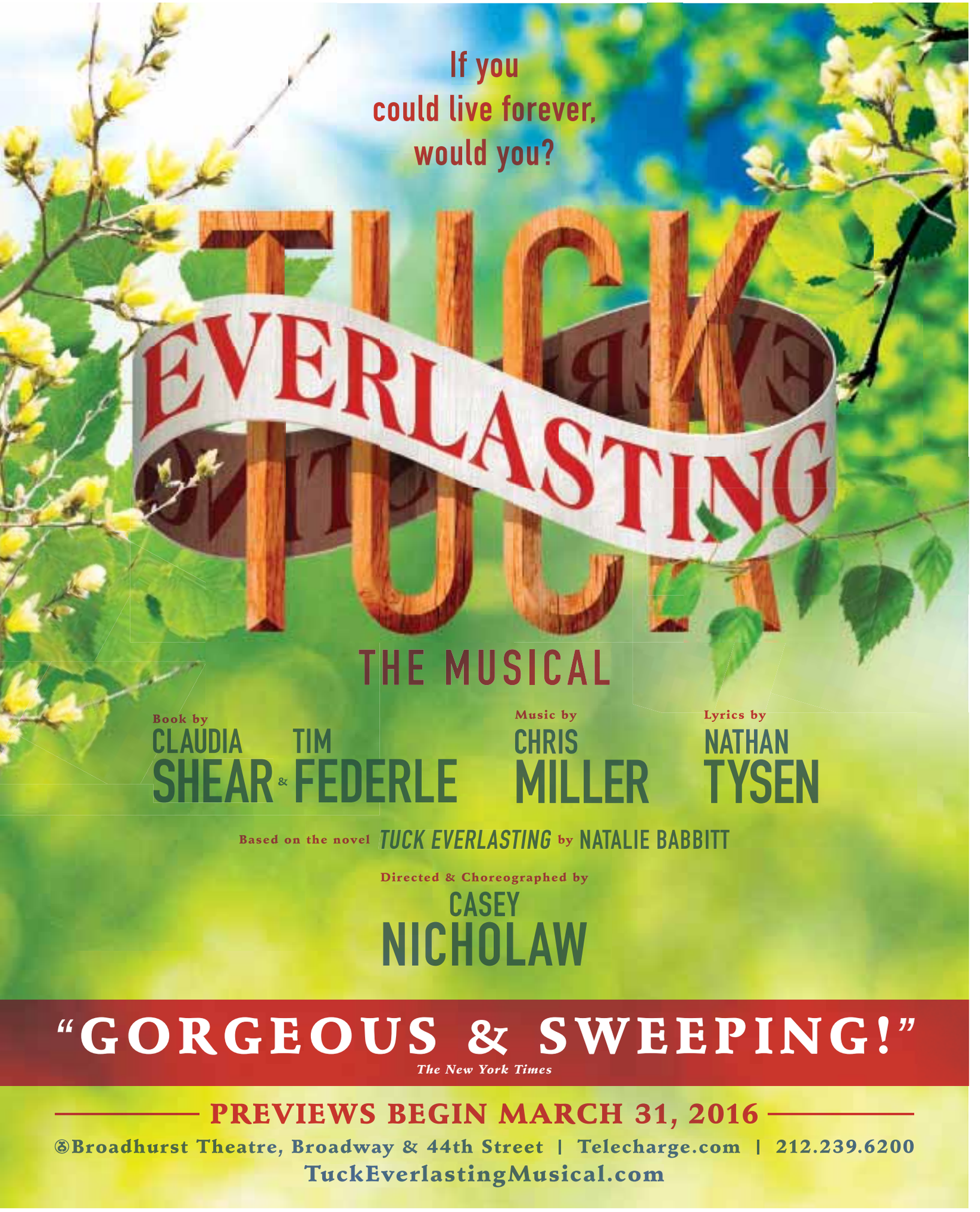
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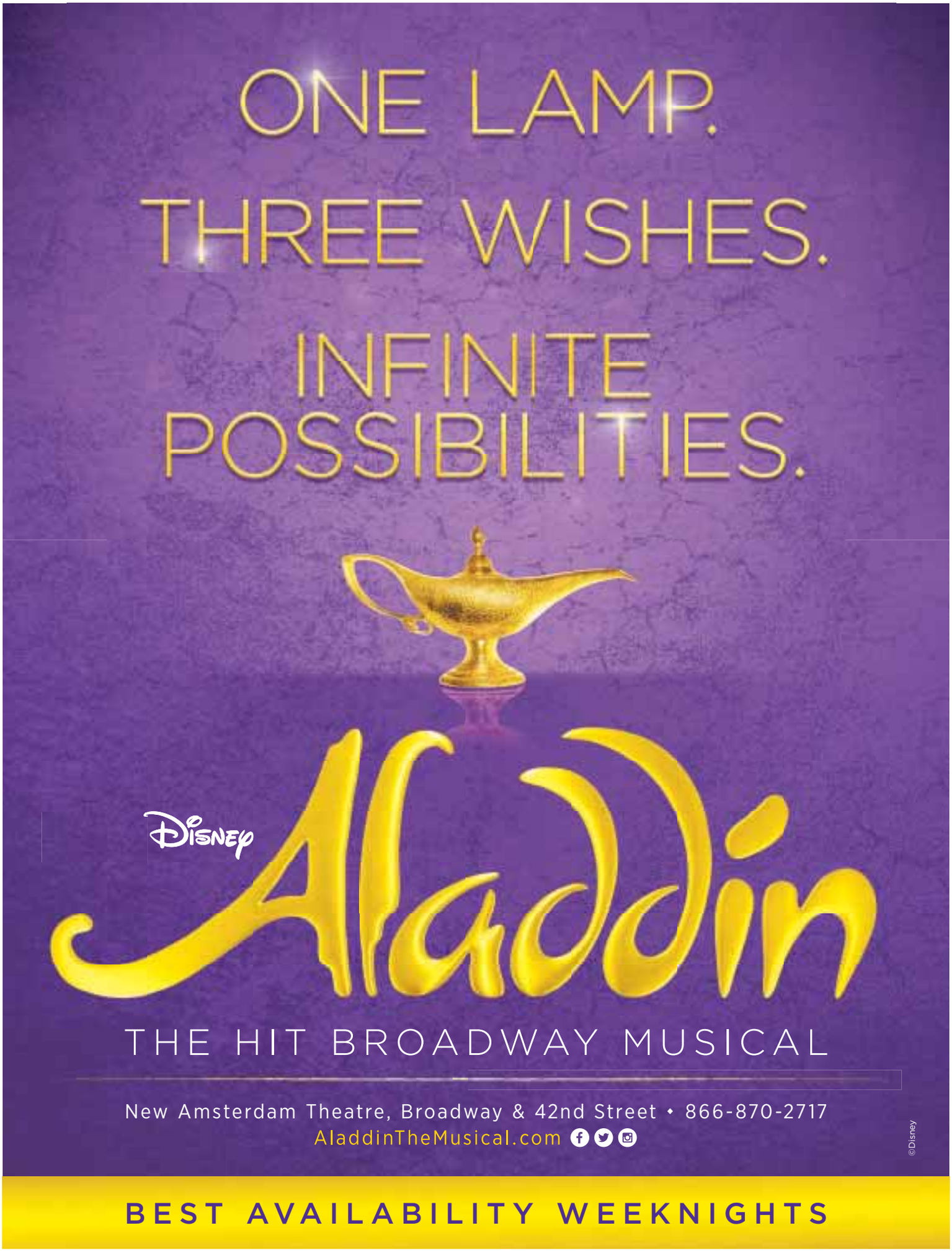
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